

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 05936 090717Z

10

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 SS-20 L-03 PRS-01 INR-10

RSC-01 DRC-01 /083 W

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R 081614Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8440

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 5936

STADIS//////////

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, CG

SUBJECT: COLLINS AWARDED EDUCATIONAL TV CONTRACT

1. DIRECTOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE BISENGIMANA CONFIRMED JULY 6 ZAIRE WISHED TO HAVE COLLINS RADIO BUILD 22 GROUND STATIONS FOR NATIONWIDE EDUCATIONAL TV NETWORK (ESTIMATED COST \$85 MILLION). I HAD LEARNED THIS NEWS EARLIER FROM THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR BUT, IN ABSENCE OF COLLINS REPS WHO HAVE DEPARTED ZAIRE, WISHED TO HAVE AUTHORITATIVE GOZ CONFIRMATION BEFORE REPORTING THIS DEVELOPMENT.

2. REPORTEDLY, COLLINS WILL BE PAID IN COPPER. BISENGIMANA SAID THAT ALTHOUGH COMMISSARIE D'ETAT FOR NATIONAL ORIENTATION SAKOMBI HAD AGREED TO THIS METHOD OF PAYMENT, THERE ARE PROBLEMS IN VIEW OF ZAIRE'S MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY CURRENT PRODUCTION ALREADY SOLD. BISENGIMANA ALSO WORRIED BECAUSE COLLINS ITSELF WOULD NOT CONSUME COPPER BUT ARRANGE SALE TO US COPPER USERS. HE STRONGLY PREFERRED "CLASSICAL" FINANCING FOR SUCH PROJECTS AND AGAIN MENTIONED EXIMBANK.

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PAGE 02 KINSHA 05936 090717Z

3. IN ORDER THAT THERE BE NO MISUNDERSTANDING, I SAID

THAT I THOUGHT EXIMBANK HAD TURNED DOWN AN EARLIER
COLLINS REQUEST FOR FINANCING. EXIMBANK ABOUT TO REACH
STATUTORY LIMIT ON FINANCING AND THEREFORE IS RESTRICTING
CONSIDERATION TO REVENUE-PRODUCING PROJECTS.

4. DURING COLLINS LAST VISIT HERE, THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED
BY REPS OF SEVERAL US COPPER-USING COMPANIES WHO
REPORTEDLY CHECKED ON QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY OF
ZAIRIAN COPPER WITH A VIEW TO PURCHASING IT AND PAYING
COLLINS WHEN CONTRACT SIGNED.
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 JUL 1974
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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